

REMARKS

Claims 1-78 were pending and were rejected. Claims 1,2, 5-7, 11-22, 26, 29, 30, 32, 33, 37, 38, 41-43, 47-58, 62, 65, 66, 68, and 69 are amended in this reply. Claims 36 and 72 have been cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been added. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending rejections in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

1. Interview Summary

The applicant thanks the Examiner for the interview of October 27, 2003, which was attended by Examiner Marschel, Tim Porter, and Paul Stone, a representative of the applicant's assignee. During the interview, the applicant's representatives discussed the differences between claim 1 and the Flavin and Schultz references. In the context of claim 1, the discussion focused on the claim's recitation of user input defining a mapping scheme, including input specifying minimum and maximum amounts and a gradient between those amounts, and on the visual display of a graphical representation of a library of materials. The distinction between "resource-oriented" and "result-oriented" library design, as set out in the prior reply in the parent application, was also discussed.

2. Rejections under Section 112

Claims 1-78 were rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as allegedly being indefinite in their recitation that a "source" is defined without further use of that term in the claims. The claims have been amended to clarify that the components assigned to particular cells in the one or more destination arrangements by virtue of the recited mappings are components represented by the defined sources, and further that the arrangements of cells in question are arrangements represented by the one or more defined destinations. However, it should be noted that the claimed methods and computer program products focus on the conceptual design of combinatorial materials libraries. Accordingly, the claims are directed to the use of electronic data to design such libraries – that is, the association of data representing

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